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FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
HONG KONG BUREAU

MHK-5020
2 November 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT : Monthly Report--Hong Kong Bureau--October 1985

I. GENERAL

A. October was an especially busy month for the bureau. Publishable wordage (1,184,440) slightly surpassed last July's record high output. This record output was due to increased reporting on the Philippines. (See Operations, Section A for more details). The bureau chief went to Manila early in the month to explore coverage improvement options with senior embassy officers. Their views and recommendations have been passed on to FBIS Headquarters for further consideration and action.

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25X1 B. An official visit to Beijing and Shanghai by [redacted] scheduled for the last week of October, had to be cancelled. Visits laid on at the last minute for a host of senior U.S. Government officials overwhelmed the embassy and Beijing's hotel capacity. As a result, we were asked to reschedule [redacted] trip for a later date. Coordination with the embassy and our Beijing contractor on 1986 press subscriptions is instead being done by wirefiled messages.

C. Vice President Bush and an entourage of 120 stopped in Hong Kong 18-20 October, following his visit to the PRC. Preparations for his visit brought most regular work at the Consulate to a standstill for several weeks and frazzled the nerves of the many Consulate officers involved in the visit. One commented that the advance team was the most arrogant bunch of he had ever seen in his long foreign service career. Except for an after the visit communications problem (see Operations, section B), the bureau was relatively unbothered by all the carry on. Many of our employees have still to wash their right hands following a Consulate reception and an opportunity to meet and shake hands with the Vice President.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. The bureau stepped up its reporting on the Philippines during the month in response to the growing apprehension in Washington over developments in that country. Selection criteria, especially for the opposition media, have been expanded to provide consumers with any even greater amount of information from the media. Subscriptions to two more opposition weeklies (WE FORUM and MR. & MS.) have been taken out and copies are now being received.

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An attempt is also being made to subscribe to a Cebu paper, the VISAYAN HERALD. We have also arranged, starting the first of this month, to get the five Manila papers which are flown here daily delivered again on the evening of publication day. The vendor who provides these papers had stopped the evening delivery service several months ago and, despite promises to renew that service, had failed to do so. We have now arranged to have the man who makes daily deliveries of some of our Hong Kong and PRC papers pick up the Manila papers in Kowloon in the early evening and deliver to the bureau. We will have this service Mon-Fri evenings. Delivery on Sat-Sun will still have to be the morning after publication day due to the work hours of the vendor. Radio coverage, on the other hand, did not improve during the month. In fact, the 1100 GMT newscast on MBS (main government station) was dropped during the month. That cast had been virtually unmonitorable since mid-summer when MBS ceased broadcasting on one of its few monitorable frequencies. We will continue to spot check that cast.

With expanded press coverage and a flurry of activities in the Philippines during the month (the Laxalt visit, anti-Marcos and anti-U.S. demonstrations, IMF rejection of loans, etc.), bureau output soared. Total wordage from the Philippine papers and radios hit an all-time high of 227,810. Another 48,910 words were filed on the Philippines from AFP, producing a combined monthly figure of 276,720 words.

2. October started off with one very welcome change concerning our receipt of RENMIN RIBAO. Starting with the 1st of the month, the regular domestic edition of the paper started showing up at the bureau on the afternoon of publication day. Since 1 July, when the new overseas edition of the paper became available in Hong Kong, the regular paper had been available to us only by air mail subscription from Beijing, with delays of 4-7 days. As of 1 October the regular edition is being printed in Guangzhou (transmitted from Beijing via satellite) and shipped down to Hong Kong for distribution the afternoon of publication day. Several days during the month delivery was not until the following morning, but we are so pleased to again have quick access to the paper that an occasional glitch is acceptable.

3. Seasonal adjustments in frequencies have again made Wellington Radio monitorable here. Due to continuing consumer interest in our reporting on New Zealand, an airmail subscription to a second national daily, the NEW ZEALAND HERALD, is being arranged.

B. Communications

We experienced a major communications outage from the 22d through the 25th of the month. The initial problem, not traced out for nearly 36 hours, was found to be a "loop-back" on our line to TCU. Our line had inadvertently been connected to someone else's circuit when wires hooked up temporarily for the Bush visit were disconnected. After that problem was finally sorted out and the circuit operated for 5 hours, another outage developed. This was finally found to be due to an intermittent modem at the bureau. Our

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technicians now believe this was the result of having too many Comscribe printers tied into the modum at one time. They are designing a buffer device which they think will protect the modum in the future.

C. Lateral Services

1. At LRB's request, we began wirefiling the daily tables of Economic Indicators from Manila BUSINESS DAY.

2. Shanghai Consulate requested that Okinawa and Hong Kong bureaus begin filing on a trial basis selected materials dealing with the Consulate's region of responsibility. An upgrade of the Shanghai communications circuit has made this possible.

3. We have been coordinating with Bangkok Bureau on means to speed up their receipt of the Hanoi papers which are transshipped through Hong Kong. Experiments with various delivery means (pouch, APO, international air mail) indicate that pouching, the system that has been used in the past, is the least timely. We have now worked out an arrangement with the Hong Kong vendor where he will package and send the papers directly by international air mail. It is too early to tell, but we are hopeful that this new procedure will shorten their receipt time by as much as a week.

4. At Seoul Bureau's request, a Beijing videotape of a special program marking the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Korean Workers Party was pouched to them for embassy viewing.

D. Technical

1. Extel Corporation provided eight sets of new IC's and IC sockets to replace inferior and defective parts originally installed in our Comscribe printers. These defective parts were found by Extel to be the cause of intermittent problems with the new Comscribe printers.

2. The T-1 terminal equipment to be used in our microwave backup circuit is now in Hong Kong. However, upon receipt from the States it was found that the units had the wrong power supplies. Replacement power supplies have been ordered and are expected to reach Hong Kong before the end of the year. In the meantime, some further progress has been made with the circuit cable installation. Cables have been installed at the bureau and we are told that they should be in at Mt. Butler some time this month. These are only the connecting cables within the two sites; it is still uncertain when the main cable laying from Mt. Butler down to Wanchai will be finished.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. TLA/SPA for Hong Kong has been raised for the second time this year, the new rate being \$76 a day. The rate went from \$53 to \$70 a day this past summer.

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2. [redacted] entered on duty 28 October, filling our recently approved ninth commo operator position.

B. Buildings and Grounds

An OS officer visited the bureau to discuss what to do about a problem with the doors to the rear emergency escape stairways. The two armor core doors which had been sent from Headquarters earlier this year were found to be hinged on the wrong side and unusable here. We have recommended that a local firm which specializes in such doors be authorized to provide two replacements. The OS rep, after consulting with the RSO, will make that recommendation to OS. The doors which we cannot use will be shipped elsewhere in the Far East. The OS officer also looked at another problem we have been having with our secure doors--cracking glass--and will submit his views to Washington.

IV. VISITS

A. The bureau chief visited Manila 7-10 October to discuss Philippine coverage improvements.

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B. PRC Book Chief [redacted] visited the bureau 9-11 October, meeting and talking with bureau staff and getting some hands-on field editorial experience several evenings.

C. Harold Brownman and Robert Melnick, president and vice president respectively of Lockheed Electronics, spent several hours at the bureau the afternoon of the 12th. They were in town on other business and wanted to visit an FBIS bureau.

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D. OS representative [redacted]

[redacted] on 28 October.

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[redacted] Bureau Chief

Attachment: Monthly Production Report

cc: Original and 3 - Hqs
1 - C/Okinawa
1 - C/Bangkok
1 - C/Seoul

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HONG KONG BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR OCTOBER 1985

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	1184440
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	121300
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1966

	BROAD-CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLICATIONS
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II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:	5410	10140	270
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III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
(PUBLISHABLE WORDS PER MONTH)

CHINA	
BEIJING INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN TAGALOG	2180
BEIJING TELEVISION SERVICE IN MANDARIN	6370
CHANGSHA HUNAN PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	9950
CHENGDU SICHUAN PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	16960
GUANGZHOU GUANGDONG PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	8860
GUIYANG GUIZHOU PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	8630
HAIKOU HAINAN ISLAND SERVICE IN MANDARIN	2650
KUNMING YUNNAN PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	15610
LANZHOU GANSU PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	9430
LHASA XIZANG REGIONAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	7020
NANNING GUANGXI REGIONAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	10910
TAIYUN SHANXI PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	6620
URUMQI XINJIANG REGIONAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	13580
WUHAN HUBEI PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	8790
XIAN SHAANXI PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	7560
XINING QINGHAI PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	4660
ZHENGZHOU HENAN PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	7780
BEIJING XINHUA HONG KONG SERVICE IN CHINESE	9770

BEIJING ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE IN CHINESE	43960
BEIJING BAN YUE TAN IN CHINESE	14170
BEIJING BAOGAO WENXUE IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING BEIJING WANBAO IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING CHINA DAILY IN ENGLISH	28050
BEIJING GONGREN RIBAO IN CHINESE	1690
BEIJING GUANGMING RIBAO IN CHINESE	28460
BEIJING GUOJI SHANGBAO IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING GUOJI WENTI YANJIU IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING HONGQI IN CHINESE	80210
BEIJING HUANQIU IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING JIEFANGJUN WENYI IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING JINGJI GUANLI IN CHINESE	13410
BEIJING JINGJI RIBAO IN CHINESE	26200
BEIJING JINGJIXUE ZHOUBAO IN CHINESE	670
BEIJING JINGJI YANJIU IN CHINESE	30610
BEIJING LIAOWANG IN CHINESE	23590
BEIJING LISHI YANJIU IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING NONGMIN RIBAO IN CHINESE	1600
BEIJING RENMIN RIBAO IN CHINESE	100330
BEIJING RENMIN RIBAO OVERSEAS EDITION IN CHINESE	8550
BEIJING SHIJIE JINGJI IN CHINESE	3350
BEIJING SHIJIE LISHI IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING SHIJIE ZHISHI IN CHINESE	4580
BEIJING WENXUE PINGLUN IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING WENYI BAO IN CHINESE	1340
BEIJING WENZHAI BAO IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING XINWEN ZHANXIAN IN CHINESE	0

BEIJING ZHEXUE YANJIU IN	0
CHINESE	
BEIJING ZHONGGUO FAZHI BAO IN	1740
CHINESE	
BEIJING ZHONGGUO QINGNIAN BAO IN	0
CHINESE	
CHENGDU SICHUAN RIBAO IN	0
CHINESE	
CHONGQING CHONGQING RIBAO IN	1560
CHINESE	
FUZHOU ZHONGGUO JINGJI WENTI IN	0
CHINESE	
GUANGZHOU GUANGZHOU RIBAO IN	0
CHINESE	
GUANGZHOU KAIFANG IN	13470
CHINESE	
GUANGZHOU NANFANG RIBAO IN	610
CHINESE	
GUANGZHOU YANGCHENG WANBAO IN	0
CHINESE	
HAIKOU HAINAN RIBAO IN	3710
CHINESE	
KUNMING YUNNAN RIBAO IN	1230
CHINESE	
LANZHOU LANZHOU WANBAO IN	0
CHINESE	
SHANGHAI SHIJIE JINGJI DAOBAO IN	5300
CHINESE	
TAIYUAN SHANXI RIBAO IN	930
CHINESE	
WUHAN CHANGJIANG RIBAO IN	0
CHINESE	
WUHAN HUBEI RIBAO IN	710
CHINESE	
XIAN SHAANXI RIBAO IN	1600
CHINESE	
YINCHUAN NINGXIA RIBAO IN	2950
CHINESE	

HONG KONG	
HONG KONG ASIA TELEVISION LTD IN	
ENGLISH	0
HONG KONG TELEVISION BROADCAST LTD IN	
ENGLISH	0
HONG KONG COMMERCIAL RADIO IN	
ENGLISH	940
HONG KONG DOMESTIC SERVICE IN	
ENGLISH	1850
HONG KONG APP IN	
ENGLISH	179530
HONG KONG ASIAWEEK IN	
ENGLISH	3410
HONG KONG CHANWANG IN	
CHINESE	0

HONG KONG CHENG MING IN CHINESE	20340
HONG KONG CHING PAO IN CHINESE	0
HONG KONG CHIUSHIH NIENTAI IN CHINESE	0
HONG KONG FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW IN ENGLISH	5650
HONG KONG HONG KONG STANDARD IN ENGLISH	8800
HONG KONG HONG KONG STANDARD (BUSINESS STANDARD SUPPLEMENT) IN ENGLISH	6040
HONG KONG HSIN WAN PAO IN CHINESE	2650
HONG KONG KUANG CHIAO CHING IN CHINESE	8360
HONG KONG MING PAO IN CHINESE	5680
HONG KONG PAI HSING IN CHINESE	4680
HONG KONG SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST IN ENGLISH	26020
HONG KONG SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST (BUSINESS NEWS SUPPLEMENT) IN ENGLISH	28120
HONG KONG TA KUNG PAO IN CHINESE	5940
HONG KONG TA KUNG PAO IN ENGLISH	2550
HONG KONG WEN WEI PO IN CHINESE	11990

NEW ZEALAND	
WELLINGTON OVERSEAS SERVICE IN ENGLISH	7810
WELLINGTON THE EVENING POST IN ENGLISH	24360

PHILIPPINES	
MANILA FAR EAST BROADCASTING COMPANY IN ENGLISH	15080
MANILA FAR EAST BROADCASTING COMPANY IN TAGALOG	2310
MANILA RADIO VERITAS IN TAGALOG	0
DAGUPAN CITY DZDL RADIO IN TAGALOG	800
QUEZON CITY MAHARLIKA BROADCASTING SYSTEM IN ENGLISH	9860
MANILA BULLETIN TODAY IN ENGLISH	33410
MANILA BUSINESS DAY IN ENGLISH	66790

MANILA METRO MANILA TIMES IN ENGLISH	22880
MANILA MR AND MS SPECIAL EDITION IN ENGLISH	2540
MANILA PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS IN ENGLISH	12570
MANILA PHILIPPINES SUNDAY EXPRESS IN ENGLISH	640
MANILA TIMES JOURNAL IN ENGLISH	23230
DAVAO CITY PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM IN ENGLISH	1690
DAVAO CITY SAN PEDRO EXPRESS IN ENGLISH	1250
DAVAO CITY THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR IN ENGLISH	2750
QUEZON CITY ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA IN ENGLISH	18360
QUEZON CITY VERITAS IN ENGLISH	6960
QUEZON CITY WE FORUM IN ENGLISH	6690